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STEADY DRINKERS.

Stories From the Home of the Inebriates.

The ordinary barrel of whiskey, it is estimated, contains 500 good solid "drunks" and quite a number of cases of delirious tremors. The same whiskey will, however, produce as many different effects on different men as there are colors in the rainbow. There will be the fighting inebriate, the crying, "drunk," the liberal "lush," the talking "tight," everybody's friend, the mournful drunkard, the bragging "mellow," etc. Desiring to ascertain why liquor affected men differently, a Chronicle reporter visited the Home of the Inebriates yesterday and sought enlightenment on the subject of Dr. Jewell, the superintendent of that institution.

"So you want to know something about drunkards, do you?" said the doctor, repeating the reporter's question. "Well, it is a prolific subject and I hardly know where to commence. In regard to liquor affecting men differently, however, that is easily explained; it is simply a matter of temperament. Take, for instance, a man who when sober is parsimonious and close-fisted, and put him under the influence of whiskey and he becomes the most liberal person in the world. He will spend money freely and lend his last cent. Here you have the liberal drunkard. Then take a naturally liberal man and when drunk he is generally stingy. The happy and high-spirited man when in his cups becomes mournful and the quiet man very talkative. The man who never fights when sober invariably becomes belligerent when inebriated. And so on through the list. It is simply the action of the liquor on the nerves."

The doctor related many instances of strange fancies of different persons while drunk. Among others was that of a man who has frequently been an inmate of the home, who always imagines that he is going to die. Nothing will convince him to the contrary, and he passes his time generally in making preparations for his demise, burial, etc. Whiskey affects consumptives, too, in a strange way. It makes them very brave, and no matter if they are in the last stages of the disease, they declare that they will never die; that liquor is kind and will save them.

FEMALE INEBRIATES.

One of the inmates of the home is a young widow, worth about \$500,000. She is a native of California and has lived abroad for a number of years. Some month ago she returned to this city and for the first time her falling was made known to a few of her most intimate friends. Under the influence of liquor she is hysterical and gives such manifest evidences of her condition in other ways, that it was deemed best to retire her in order that she might not be disgraced. She is very beautiful and very talented. Another female inmate is a young woman, who until about two months ago did not know the taste of liquor. She attended a fashionable wedding, however, and went home drunk. Since then she has been intoxicated several times and her family are seeking to cure her of her appetite for drink.

A romantic incident of the marriage of an attorney to a woman of the demi-monde at the home was related by the doctor. It seems the woman had been the mistress of the lawyer and was in the habit of going on periodical spees. She was frequently taken to the home, and the last time she was there the attorney called and desired to know if it was possible to cure her of her appetite for liquor. "Marry her," said Mr. Jewell, half-jokingly, and to his astonishment the attorney returned the next day with a clergyman and a marriage license, and the couple were married in the office of the home. This was over a year ago. "I saw them the other day," said the doctor, and they appeared to be very happy. The woman has thoroughly reformed."

THE CHLORAL HABIT.

"Doctor, how do you account for the appetite for whiskey? Is it cultivated or inherited?" "I look upon it as a disease, and in most instances it is inherited," replied the doctor. "No; there is no cure for it except in the person himself. If an inebriate has not will power enough to stop drinking nobody can do anything for him."

Referring to different intoxicants, Dr. Jewell stated that chloral drunks were on the increase, but after a while a chloral drinker would be in a constant state of insomnia, and in order to produce sleep chloroform had to be resorted to. Morphine is a deadly poison to a chloral taker.

"Are there any pronounced cases of chloral takers in this city?"

"Yes," replied the doctor, "there are several. One case in particular which I will mention is that of a physician, who is a confirmed victim of the chloral habit. In his office he has rigged from the ceiling by pulleys a large funnel containing a sponge saturated with chloroform, which is kept raised by a weight at the other end of the rope. Directly under the funnel is a cot. After taking chloral all day the physician goes to his room, and lying down on the cot, pulls the funnel down over his face and inhales the chloroform. When unconscious his hands relax and the weight raises the funnel. Some day the pulleys will fall to work and there will be one chloral eater less."

THE CHINOOKS AND CLATSOPS OF OREGON.

The first object sighted by the passenger by steamer from this city to Portland, Or., after the vessel has fairly crossed the bar on the South channel entrance of the Columbia river, is a bold promontory named Chinook point. It rises from 800 to 1000 feet above the level of the sea, is four miles inside of the reef, eight miles northwest of Astoria, and, in connection with Cape Disappointment, forms the semicircular sheet of water known as Baker's Bay. Like all the shores of the lower Columbia, it is densely wooded with mighty pines, cedars and firs, which rise to a height of 200 and even 300 feet, and seen from a distance of one mile appear to stand as thick as bristles on a hog's back. Rounding this prominent landmark, there is seen a slight curve in the water-line, which forms the frontage, looking across the estuary toward Astoria, of a few acres of low-lying and level land, which was partly cleared of its timber growth thirty-three years ago. A rivulet tumbles down through a precipitous channel, entering the salt water after passing through this light in the landscape. Here was once, and perhaps for ages, the home and headquarters of the Chinook Indians, the tribe after which the Hudson's Bay company named the lingo known as "Chinook jargon," which for two centuries was the medium of linguistic communication between its traders and all the tribes of the great river, Puget sound, the Gulf of Georgia and the entire possession of the great corporation on the waters of the Pacific coast. The entire vocabulary of this new language does not exceed 400 words, but the different meanings conveyed by the variations in the tone and accent serve the purpose of adjectives and adverbs and multiply the power of the word many fold. Thus, for example, *shah* or *syah* literally means the English adverb of distance, "away." But it may be so accented in speech as to signify much more than this. If spoken in the ordinary tone it implies a short distance off. If the distance be, say five or ten miles off, the word is spoken *shah-a*. If fifty miles *shah-a-a*. If five hundred miles, *shah-a-a-a-a*. Some of the words are as resonant and graceful as the Latin of the age of Cicero. Others, and by far the most, are as barbarous and guttural as the language of the Dacotahs. *Mimiluse* is used alike for "dead," "death," the grave or the canoe and the clothes in which the dead are invariably deposited. "Clutchman" is the jargon for female, whether a woman dog or any other animal. *Hysa* or *highas* is either an adjective or an adverb, which may indicate size, strength, distance, weight, measure, but always implies something big or uncommon of its kind.

A MANUFACTURED LANGUAGE. It is needless to add that this is not the original language of any tribe, or of the Chinooks. It was compounded by the traders for the purpose of trade with all the tribes and first used in trade with this particular tribe. It has naturally found its way into the spoken language of the Oregon and Washington Territory whites and the ability to use it freely was once regarded by them as an accomplishment. It is an accomplishment that stands on the same level with the more pretentious pedantry of interlarding bad French, or Spanish or Latin with good English. The mixture is disgustingly vulgar. In the year 1850 these Chinooks numbered of all ages and both sexes not less than 1,000. Due South of their main village, across the estuary on the low flat and heavily timbered belt, which is bound on the West by the open sea and on the East by a tidal creek called the Skippenow, lived the Clatsops. Their country, before the white aggression, fringed upon them and crowded them out of the best part of it extended along the coast South of Tillamook point, a bold headland where the Government now maintains a light-house.

Inventions of Half a Century

The number of inventions that have been made during the past fifty years is unprecedented in the history of the world. Inventions of benefit to the human race have been made in all ages since man was created; but looking back for half a hundred years, how many more are crowded into the past fifty than into any other fifty since recorded history! The perfection of the locomotive, and the world-traversing steamship, the telegraph, the telephone, the audiphone, the sewing machine, the photograph, chromo-lithographic printing, the cylinder printing press, the elevator for hotels and other many-storied buildings, the cotton gin and the spinning-jenny, the reaper and mower, the steam thrasher, the steam fire engine, the improved process for making steel, the application of chloroform and ether to destroy sensibility in painful surgery cases, and so on through a long catalogue. Nor are we yet done in the field of invention and discovery. The application of coal-gas and petroleum to heating and cooking operations seems to be only trembling on the verge of general adoption; the introduction of steam from a great central reservoir to general use for heating and cooking has been in part a success; the navigation of the air by some device akin to our present balloon would also seem to be prefigured, and the propulsion of machinery by electricity is even now clearly indicated by the march of experiment.

There are some problems we have hitherto deemed impossible, but are the mysteries of even the most improbable of them more subtle to grasp than that of the ocean cable, or that of the photograph or telephone? We talk by cable with an ocean rolling between us; we speak in our voices to friends a hundred miles or more from where we articulate before the microphone. Under the blazing sun of July we produce ice by chemical means, rivaling the most solid and crystalline production of nature. Our surgeons graft the skin from one person's arm to the face of another, and it adheres and becomes an integral portion of the body. We take a mile of white printing paper and send it on a spool that a perfecting printing press unwinds and prints, and delivers to you, folded and counted, many thousands per hour. Of a verity this is the age of invention, nor has the world reached a stopping place yet.

A Sketch of El Mahdi.

Beyond question the "prophet" is a man of considerable intelligence and extraordinary force of character. In barren discussion as to the nature or authority of his mission he loses no time. If any man be bold enough to challenge his divine origin or express disbeliever he is permitted to choose between submission, open acknowledgment, and decapitation. On the other hand, he protects and encourages those who voluntarily accept him as the true Mahdi—a man sent by Allah to reform mankind. He boasts some education as it is understood in the East; that is, he reads and writes, and is well versed in the Koran and the commentaries. He speaks both the Arabic and Arabic languages. He indulges in none of the luxuries of vanities of life, except perhaps a weakness for a large number of wives. He is credited with the possession of thirty-nine of these aids to happiness, though the orthodox number allowed by the Koran is only four. By a system of temporary divorce, it seems he keeps within the letter of the Mohammedan law; the ladies taking it in turn to be divorced and taking on again. The Mahdi, the correspondent also says, is

a fighting prophet. He takes part in all the battles, and does not spare his own person. There is a report current that to the fight with Hick's army he received a sword cut across the forehead which divided the brass cap which he wears under his turban, and inflicted an ugly wound. For some time after the battle he did not appear in public, and it is suspected that the wound had something to do with the extraordinary inaction of the Mahdi's forces since the defeat of General Hicks. Mohammed Ahmed is "a total abstinence man of the purest water." Not alone are wine and all sorts of spirituous liquors forbidden but even the more harmless enjoyments of tobacco and coffee are anathema; and severe penalties inflicted on any one discovered using the forbidden luxuries. One of the refugees now at Mongolia relates that having been caught by some of the Mahdi's soldiers smoking a cigarette he was seized, brought before the prophet and sentenced to receive 150 lashes, which were duly administered. [Correspondence London Daily News.

Hatching Ostriches.

Ansheim (Cal.) Gazette. The incubators at the ostrich farm are fully charged with eggs, and it is possible that in six or eight weeks the long-necked ostrich chicks will be a strutting fact. The hens are laying with their accustomed energy, and six of them having reached the age when they ought to produce fertile eggs, tangible results are expected. Two of the hens will be allowed to "sit" and it will be interesting to note this trial between natural and artificial methods. One of the sitting hens has now a nest of five eggs, which she warms during the day and her male mate relieves her of that duty during the night. Some of the birds will be plucked during the next few weeks. The quality of the feathers has been somewhat impaired by the heavy winter rains.

In 1876 George William Curtis, just prior to the Cincinnati Convention, placed himself on record in the matter of certain charges against Mr. Blaine—the same charges, nothing more, nothing less, that his enemies allege against him now. In his paper, Harper's Weekly, of May 13, 1876, he stated that Mr. Blaine's explanation of them was supported by unquestionable testimony, and that it left him unspotted and in his enthusiasm he added: "No charge that may hereafter be made against Mr. Blaine, unaccompanied by weighty testimony, will deserve any attention whatever." We would like to know what George William Curtis in 1884 thinks of George William Curtis in 1876, or to reverse it, we should like to know what George William Curtis in 1876 would have thought of George William Curtis in 1884. If Mr. Curtis thought Mr. Blaine was a fit and proper candidate to be nominated by the Chicago convention of 1884? Certainly Mr. Curtis was not coerced in the latter convention. On the contrary, the most extraordinary courtesy was shown to him, and the resolution to bind members in advance to the support of the ticket was withdrawn explicitly on his account because he gave the convention to understand that every member was in honor bound to support the nominees. By Mr. Curtis' own words in 1876 Mr. Curtis in 1884 "deserves no attention whatever." If he cherishes the illusion that he alone keeps the conscience of the Republican party he should disabuse himself of the idea forthwith, and read what Mr. Curtis wrote eight years ago. —Chicago Tribune.

A little girl came from her Sunday school in a high state of indignation because her Sunday School teacher had told her that Jesus was a Jew. "Was He a Jew mother?" said she in great excitement. "Why, yes, my dear," said the mother a little doubtfully, as if unwilling to concede the objectionable fact, but unable to deny it. "I suppose he was a Jew." "But I thought He was the Son of God." "So He is, my dear." "I don't see how, then, He could be a Jew," responded the young sectarian. "for God is a Presbyterian." —Christian Union.

If Congress does not take some action in regard to the extradition treaty with Canada pretty soon there will be enough American bank officers on Domain soil to steal the whole confederation. —Philadelphia Times.